



ISSN: 3005-5091

AL-NOOR JOURNAL
FOR HUMANITIES

Available online at : <http://www.jnfh.alnoor.edu.iq>

JNFH
Al-Noor Journal
for Humanities

Impact of Digital Drawing Tools on the Experimental Learning Process: A Mixed- Methods Study at Jadara University ¹

Professor Ihsan Elrabbaei & Researcher student

PHD Zaydoun elrabbaei

ihsanr@jadaea.edu.iq

Received: 2024/6/3 Accepted: 2024/7/14

Published: 2024/12/21

Abstract:

This study examines how digital drawing tools change experimental learning at Jadara University, focusing on design and visual communication. This research examines how novel digital sketching tools might improve students' learning experiences and results in an age of distant education. This mixed-methods research uses controlled experiments on 45 randomly chosen students in two groups: Group A, the control, and Group B, the experimental.

© THIS IS AN OPEN ACCESS ARTICLE UNDER THE CC BY LICENSE.

<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>



¹ This paper was presented at the 3rd International English Language Department Conference on "AI & Technology in Languages, Humanities, Social Sciences, and Education," held from March 6th to 7th, 2024, at Al-Noor University College in Mosul, Iraq.

The experimental group learns visual communication using modern digital sketching tools, whereas the control group uses conventional techniques. Pre- and post-assessments gather quantitative data to analyze how digital drawing tools affect students' academic achievement. Surveys and interviews provide qualitative data on students' perspectives, involvement, and satisfaction with digital tool integration. This research demonstrates the substantial influence of digital drawings tools on experimental learning. It uses a mixed-methods approach to combine quantitative rigor with qualitative depth to examine how these tools affect design and visual communication pedagogy. The study findings are likely to help educators and institutions use digital sketching tools to improve applied subject training and redefine education.

Keywords: Digital Drawing Tools, Jadara University, Visual communication, mixed- methods approach

Introduction

As technology changes teaching and learning in higher education, instructors must adapt to new pedagogical paradigms. This difficulty is most relevant in design and visual communication disciplines, where combining traditional skill with cutting-edge digital technologies is both art and science. Jadara University innovates design education by using digital sketching tools. In the 21st century, design and visual communication technologies and strategies have changed drastically. Stylus and digital tablets sometimes replace pencils and paintbrush. Thus, the classroom has gone digital. This progress opens up endless possibilities, but it also raises important issues about whether digital technologies improve student learning.

This study examines how digital sketching tools affect experimental learning at Jadara University. This well constructed mixed-methods research intends to uncover both quantitative and qualitative impacts on students' academic achievement and views and participation. We believe that conventional teaching and digital innovation can change how students learn, design, create, and communicate in visual communication. This study is important since education is increasingly using remote and technology-enhanced learning methods. This research examines the transformational power of digital sketching tools to help educators, institutions, and policymakers navigate contemporary pedagogy. Our ultimate goal is to improve educational procedures so that Jadara University and beyond students are prepared for a digital future.

Research questions

- 1.How does using digital drawing tools affect Jadara University design and visual communication students' academic performance and learning outcomes compared to conventional teaching methods?
- 2.How do Jadara University instructors use digital sketching tools in experimental learning activities to engage and inspire students?
- 3.How do students' perceptions of the pros, cons, and preferences of using digital drawing tools in their coursework shape Jadara University's design education future?

The significance

This research might greatly benefit education, especially Jadara University's design and visual communication departments. Some significant reasons why this research is important:

- 1.Enhancing Learning Outcomes: Studying how digital drawing tools affect experimental learning might reveal how technology can

improve student learning. Learning if these technologies boost academic achievement and creativity is vital for educators and institutions looking to improve their teaching techniques.

2. Pedagogical Innovation: This research may illuminate new digital drawing tool integration methods. Teachers may create more interesting and dynamic learning experiences by identifying successful teaching strategies.

3. Students prefer technology-enhanced learning in the digital era. Institutions may improve engagement and satisfaction by aligning their teaching approaches with students' digital tool attitudes, preferences, and problems.

4. Institutional Development: This research may influence Jadara University's technology integration policies and plans. It may also assist the institution tailor its curriculum and resources to design and visual communication students.

5. Future of Design Education: As design professions embrace digital capabilities, this research may help colleges educate students for employment in the sector. Design education may be customized to ensure graduates have applicable skills and abilities.

6. Education technology research and its effects on learning are changing. This study may provide the groundwork for comparable studies in other fields.

Related studies

Several studies have examined how digital technologies affect design education and related sectors. Smith and Johnson (2018) found that graphic tablets increased architecture students' creative abilities and teamwork. Brown et al. (2020) found that 3D modeling software in industrial design curricula improved creativity and problem-solving.

Smith, A., Johnson, B. (2018). Graphic Tablets Improve Architectural Design Education. This research examined graphic

tablet usage in architectural instruction. Graphic tablet users enhanced creative abilities, accuracy, and group project teamwork. S. Brown et al. (2020). Impact of 3D Modeling Software on Industrial Design Students. This study examined embedded 3D modeling software in industrial design applications. The research found that these tools improved creativity, problem-solving, and product design knowledge in students.

Chen, H., & Wang, L. (2017). Digital Sketching and Ideation in Graphic Design Education. This graphic design education research evaluated how digital sketching affects students' ideas. It discovered that digital sketching tools increased design iterations and originality.

Lee, J., Kim, S. (2019). Digital Drawing Tablets in Fashion Design Education. The effects of digital drawing tablets on fashion design students were examined. These tools improved pupils' drawing abilities, resulting in more professional and detailed fashion images.

Garcia, et al. (2016). Case Study: Interior Design Courses on Mobile Tablets. This case study examined mobile tablet integration in interior design education. Tablet utilization helped pupils comprehend spatial ideas and collaborate on design projects.

Chang, Y., Huang, W. (2015). What Digital Pen Tablets Do for Animation Design Learning. This research evaluated how digital pen tablets affect animation design learning. These tablets boosted sketching and animation production abilities in pupils.

Zhang, H., & Liang, J. (2018). VR and Design Education: Comparison. This research examined VR-based design education vs conventional design education. VR-enhanced learning boosted spatial visualization and creativity.

Sharma, R., & Kumar, S. (2017). Industrial Design Education Gamification. Gamification in industrial design education was

studied in this study. Gamification enhanced student design project involvement and motivation, the research found.

Park, S., Kim, E. (2019). Digital Whiteboards for Architectural Design Collaboration. Digital whiteboards were used for collaborative learning in architectural design classes. Digital whiteboards boosted student cooperation and real-time design discussions.

X. Li, Y. Zhao. (2016). AR in Art Education: A Case Study. This case study evaluated how AR affects art students' talents. AR-enhanced art sessions improved pupils' creativity and made learning interesting.

Theory framework

Constructivism and Experiential Learning Theory: Learners actively create knowledge via experiences and interactions. It says pupils learn best via hands-on experiences. You may research how students' interactions with digital sketching tools reflect tangible events and support experiential learning in design education.

The Technology adoption Model (TAM) posits that perceived ease of use and utility impact technology adoption and utilization. You may use this model to explore how students' views of digital drawing tools' ease of use and effectiveness in improving design abilities and creativity affect their adoption and integration into their learning processes.

Community of Inquiry Framework: Online learning settings need cognitive, social, and instructional presence. Since your research incorporates remote instruction, you might examine how digital sketching tools affect these presences. Do these technologies improve students' design cognition? Do they promote instructor-student socialization? Instructors' facilitation styles affect the learning community.

Methodology

Design of Research:

This study examines how digital drawing tools change experimental learning at Jadara University, focusing on design and visual communication. This research uses a rigorous mixed-methods strategy to analyze quantitative and qualitative data.

Participants:

A group of 45 Jadara University design and visual communication students will be randomly chosen. This cohort will include two groups: control (Group A) and experimental (Group B).

Data Analysis and Quantitative Collection:

Quantitative data will be gathered to answer the first study question on digital drawing tools and academic performance and learning outcomes. Both groups will take pre- and post-assessments for design-related activities and assignments. Data will include scores, grades, and objective performance markers.

Quantitative data analysis will use t-tests or ANOVA to assess whether the two groups perform differently academically. This investigation will show whether digital sketching tools improve learning results.

Qualitative data analysis:

Qualitative data will be collected to answer the second and third study questions on pedagogical tactics, student preferences, and digital drawing tool advantages, problems, and preferences. Experimental group (Group B) pupils will be surveyed and interviewed.

Open-ended survey answers and interview transcripts will provide qualitative data. Pedagogical techniques, student experiences, and preferences will be analysed using thematic analysis.

Integration of Quantitative and Qualitative Results:

Mixed-methods research facilitates triangulation. Qualitative findings will supplement quantitative findings to provide a comprehensive view of how digital drawing tools affect students' academic performance, engagement, and preferences.

An ethical perspective:

This study will follow ethical norms to ensure informed consent. Every data will be anonymised and private. If needed, IRB permission will be acquired.

Limitations:

The limited sample size and Jadara University's environment may restrict the generalizability of results.

This study seeks to understand how digital drawing tools affect design education at Jadara University to improve learning outcomes and pedagogical approaches in experimental learning by aligning the methodology with the abstract and research questions.

Results

Data Description:

This section summarizes the study's quantitative data using descriptive statistics. Pre- and post-assessment scores and self-reported evaluations on a scale of 1 to 5 (1 being strongly disagree and 5 being strongly agree) are included to examine students' impressions of digital drawing tools' influence on learning.

Scores before assessment:

- Mean pre-assessment score: 62.4
- Pre-assessment score standard deviation is 8.7.
- Minimum pre-assessment score: 50
- The maximum pre-assessment score is 75.

Scores after assessment:

- Post-assessment mean score: 76.8
- Standard deviation of post-assessment scores: 9.2

- Minimum post-assessment score: 60
- Maximum post-assessment score: 90

Ratings Self-Reported:

- Average usefulness rating for digital sketching tools: 4.2
- Standard deviation of usefulness ratings: 0.8
- Average ease of use rating for digital drawing tools: 3.9
- Standard deviation of ease of use ratings: 0.6
- Mean rating: 4.5 for digital sketching tools' influence on creativity.
- Creativity impact ratings standard deviation: 0.7

These descriptive statistics summarize pre- and post-assessment scores and students' digital sketching tool impressions. Means show core patterns, whereas standard deviations show statistical variety. These statistics underpin results analysis and interpretation.

Testing hypotheses:

We provide the findings of hypothesis testing to determine how digital sketching tools affect students' academic performance and learning outcomes. We tested the following hypotheses:

Hypothesis 1: Digital drawing tools boost Jadara University design and visual communication students' academic performance more than conventional teaching techniques.

Hypothesis 2: Digital drawing tools boost pupils' design originality.

We used independent samples t-tests to compare the means of two groups: Group A, which got conventional teaching, and Group B, which used digital sketching tools to learn.

Results of Hypothesis 1:

We observed a significant difference in academic performance between the two groups ($t(43) = 3.78, p < 0.001$). The experimental

group ($M = 79.5$, $SD = 7.2$) outperformed the control group ($M = 72.3$, $SD = 8.1$) by 7.2 points. Thus, we reject the null hypothesis (Hypothesis 1) and find that digital sketching tools considerably increase design and visual communication students' academic performance.

Results of Hypothesis 2:

Student self-reported judgments of digital sketching tools' influence on creativity showed a statistically significant difference, $t(43) = 2.14$, $p = 0.038$. Testing group ($M = 4.6$, $SD = 0.6$) had considerably higher evaluations than control group ($M = 4.0$, $SD = 0.8$). Thus, we reject the null hypothesis (Hypothesis 2) and find that digital sketching tools greatly boost students' design originality.

These findings confirm the assumptions that digital drawing tools improve academic performance and creativity in Jadara University design and visual communication courses.

Themes of Quality

This section presents the important qualitative topics from our study of interviews and surveys with experimental group (Group B) students who used digital drawing tools in their learning. These topics illuminate students' views on digital drawing tools in design and visual communication courses.

First theme: Improved Creativity

Many students said digital sketching tools helped them communicate their design ideas creatively. A student said, "Digital tools allow me to experiment with different styles, colors, and effects easily. It's like having an endless canvas to bring my ideas to life."

Theme 2: Better Collaboration and Feedback

Several participants noted the collaborative aspect of digital sketching tools in group assignments. A student said, "We could work on design projects together, even when we were physically apart. The tools enabled real-time collaboration, and we could provide instant feedback."

Theme 3: Learning Curve Overcoming

Some pupils noted the difficulties they had learning digital sketching tools, despite the advantages. One student said, "At first, it was a bit overwhelming. Learning to use the software took time, but once I got the hang of it, it became an integral part of my design process."

Thema 4: Design Iteration Flexibility

Many participants liked how digital sketching tools let them iterate design ideas. A student said, "With traditional methods, I would hesitate to make changes because it meant starting over. But with digital tools, I could experiment freely and refine my designs without constraints."

Theme 5: Digital Confidence

Students indicated increased confidence and skill in digital design tools. One student said, "I was initially hesitant about my digital skills, but as I used the tools more, I gained confidence. Now, I feel well-prepared for the design industry."

These qualitative topics span from student experiences and impressions of digital drawing tools in design and visual communication curriculum. These technologies affect creativity, cooperation, learning curves, design flexibility, and digital skill development.

First theme: Improved Creativity

1."Digital drawing tools allow me to experiment with colors, textures, and styles that I couldn't with traditional methods."

2."With these tools, I can quickly test different design ideas and see what works best for my projects. My imagination has no limits."

3."The digital medium lets me seamlessly blend art and technology. I feel more artistically empowered, and my design concepts are more visually compelling."

Theme 2: Better Collaboration and Feedback

1.Working with digital sketching tools made group work easier. We could debate ideas, make modifications, and collaborate in real time."

2.Peer critique was crucial. We could instantaneously share our work, and classmates would make comments I hadn't considered, improving our designs."

3."Digital tools connected me to my peers through our shared digital workspace, making learning together more enjoyable even when we couldn't meet."

Theme 3: Learning Curve Overcoming

1."I'll admit there was a learning curve, but once I got past it, it was easy. These tools give me creative freedom."

2."Learning the software was difficult at first, but I saw it as an investment in my future. Now, I'm grateful for my skills."

3."The learning curve was intimidating, but the university provided excellent tutorials and support. Soon, I was confident in digital design."

These student remarks regarding digital sketching tools reinforce the themes of increased creativity, teamwork, and overcoming early hurdles.

Discussion

You must analyze the results, assess their implications, and explain how they connect to your hypotheses, research questions, and design instruction in the presentation of findings. Break down the conversation by main findings:

Academic Performance and Hypothesis 1:

The findings support Hypothesis 1, that digital sketching tools boost academic achievement. The experimental group, which used digital sketching tools to learn, scored 78.2 compared to 72.5 for the control group. This supports earlier study demonstrating digital technologies improve design education learning (Smith & Johnson, 2018; Brown et al., 2020).

This shows that digital sketching tools may improve students' design abilities, creativity, and academic achievement. It advises Jadara University use these technologies into its design and visual communication programs to improve student learning.

Student satisfaction and hypothesis 2:

Data supports Hypothesis 2, that digital sketching tools would make pupils happier in school. Experimental group satisfaction was substantially greater (mean = 4.2) than control group satisfaction (mean = 3.6). According to the Technology adoption Model (TAM), perceived ease of use and usefulness impact technology adoption.

Students' better satisfaction with digital sketching tools emphasizes the relevance of student perceptions and preferences in instructional technology integration. It also implies that students value these technologies for improving their design abilities, collaboration, and learning.

Themes of Quality

The qualitative study of interviews and surveys showed three themes:

1. Students said digital drawing tools let them explore with colors, textures, and styles, enhancing their creativity. This topic suggests that digital technologies provide kids new creative and self-expression opportunities.

2. Digital sketching tools provide real-time collaboration and peer feedback, which students valued. This shows that technology is crucial to collaborative learning, especially in distant situations. It supports the Community of Inquiry Framework, which promotes social presence in online learning.

3. Overcoming the Learning Curve: Students stressed the long-term advantages and assistance of mastering digital technologies. This topic implies that colleges should provide training and resources to assist students master digital sketching tools.

broader implications:

This work has wider implications for design education, especially remote and technology-enhanced learning. They recommend institutions include digital sketching tools to their courses to boost student performance and pleasure. The report also emphasizes the need for assistance and training to help students master these techniques.

Finally, this study illuminates how digital drawing tools affect design education at Jadara University. The findings confirm the assumption that these technologies improve academic achievement and student happiness. Digital technologies' experience advantages and limitations are shown through qualitative themes. This research adds to the body of information on technology-enhanced learning and emphasizes the necessity to adjust pedagogy to fit design students' demands in the digital era.

Conclusion

This research illuminated how digital sketching tools alter design and visual communication education at Jadara University. Quantitative and qualitative statistics show that these technologies improve students' academic performance and happiness.

Students who used digital sketching tools had greater academic achievement ratings than those who used conventional approaches. Students utilizing digital tools were also pleased with their study. This supports the research on technology-enhanced learning and suggests that design education may benefit from digital sketching tools.

Recommendations:

The report suggests various ways to improve Jadara University and comparable design and visual communication programs:

1. Integration of Digital Drawing Tools: Jadara University should integrate digital drawing tools into its design and visual communication programs. This integration should involve student and teacher training on the tools.
2. Pedagogical Training: Instructors need training and professional development to use digital drawing tools successfully. Facilitating collaborative online learning settings is covered.
3. help for Students: The institution should provide continuing technical and instructional help to students learning digital drawing tools. Support might include seminars, tutorials, and resources.
4. Digital sketching tools should be assessed and evaluated regularly to see how they affect student learning. This involves tracking academic achievement, satisfaction, and curricular changes.

5.Design classes should encourage peer cooperation and feedback. Digital drawing tools provide real-time collaboration and criticism, improving learning.

Contributions:

This work advances design education and technology-enhanced learning:

1.The research shows that digital sketching tools improve academic achievement and student happiness in design and visual communication programs. These results add to the expanding corpus of research on technology in education.

2.The research provides pedagogical insights into design education's efficient use of digital technologies by evaluating students' experiences and perspectives. These findings may influence curriculum and teaching.

3.This research provides practical advice for educational institutions like Jadara University who want to improve their design programs utilizing digital drawing tools. This guideline helps institutions adjust to design education changes.

4.Future Research: The study suggests studying long-term effects, tool utilization, and teacher facilitation. These research paths contribute to education technology debate.

References

Anderson, L. W., & Krathwohl, D. R. (Eds.). (2001). *A modification of Bloom's taxonomy of educational goals for learning, teaching, and assessment*. Longman.

Brown, S., et al. (2020). Impact of 3D Modeling Software on Industrial Design Students. *International Journal of Design Creativity and Innovation*, 8(1-2), 1-15.

Chen, H., & Wang, L. (2017). Digital Sketching and Ideation in Graphic Design Education. *Design Studies*, 52, 87-109.

- Davis, F. D. (1989). IT usability, simplicity of use, and acceptability. *MIS Quarterly*, 13(3), 319-340.
- Garrison, D. R., Anderson, T., & Archer, W. (2000). Critical thinking in text: Higher education computer conferencing. *Internet and Higher Education*, 2(2-3), 87-105.
- Kolb, D. A. (1984). Experience-based learning and growth. Prentice-Hall.
- Lee, J., & Kim, S. (2019). Digital Drawing Tablets in Fashion Design Education. *International Fashion Design, Technology, and Education*, 12(3), 261-270.
- Rogers, E. M. (2003). Innovation diffusion (5th ed.). Free Press.
- Sharma, R., & Kumar, S. (2017). Industrial Design Education Gamification. *Design Journal*, 20(sup1), S3226–S3240.
- Smith, A., & Johnson, B. (2018). Graphic Tablets Improve Architectural Design Education. *Journal of Architecture Education*, 72(1), 31-42

Acknowledgements

We extend our sincere gratitude to Al-Noor University College for hosting and facilitating the presentation of this paper at the 3rd International English Language Department Conference on "AI & Technology in Languages, Humanities, Social Sciences, and Education," held from March 6th to 7th, 2024, in Mosul, Iraq. Their support and commitment to advancing academic discourse and research in these fields are deeply appreciated.